

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

5       A method for transmitting multicast messages where a group key is generated for  
signing the multicast message transmitted on a network. Next, the system establishes a  
group key name corresponding to the group key. Once the group key name is established,  
the data packet is transmitted together with the group key name, the group key and the  
multicast message. Upon receipt, the recipient validates the group key name in the  
received data packet by comparing the received group key name to a group key name  
10      table in order to determine the intended group recipients.